



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, June 20, 2024 from 9:30-11:00 am

1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30) – Arun Sambataro, King County

2. Reports (9:35)

- a. Meeting Summary for May 16, 2024*
- b. PSRC Announcements and Updates

3. Discussion Item (9:45)

- a. Open Space Trends* – Erika Harris, PSRC

4. Discussion Item (10:20)

- a. Regional Safety Plan Update* – Gary Simonson, PSRC

5. Next meeting: July 18, 2024

6. Adjourn (11:00)

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join via a smart device or web browser, go to <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/82979027403?pwd=PJzktpw0xVSjmfrPuOBMN70kYzrE55.1> and enter Meeting ID: 829 7902 7403 and Passcode: 600833.
- To join by phone, call 833 548 0282 US Toll-free or 877 853 5257 US Toll-free and enter Meeting ID: 829 7902 7403 and Passcode: 600833.
- العربية | Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng việt | Vietnamese, visit <https://www.psrc.org/contact/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee Meeting Summary

Date: May 16, 2024

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the PSRC website:

<https://www.psrc.org/rsc-meetings>.

Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Introductions and Announcements

Jason Sullivan, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Participants were asked to view the meeting attendance on the “chat” feature on Zoom, and phone-in participants were asked to identify themselves verbally.

Reports

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, welcomed committee members and provided short updates on upcoming policy and Executive Board meetings and reviewed the status of ongoing projects in the work program.

Ben shared that in the RSC agenda packet, a section called “Board Calendar” was added to memos following the “In Brief,” to identify the timeline for topics to be discussed by PSRC boards. He reminded members of PSRC’s annual General Assembly meeting and luncheon, held on Thursday May 30, at the Seattle Convention Center. Ben also shared that PSRC staff plan to be at community events, fairs, farmers markets, and other activities this summer to engage with the public on the Regional Safety Action Plan. He asked members to share any events in their communities that would be appropriate for PSRC staff to engage with.

Discussion: Plan Review Work Plan and Approach

Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, briefed the committee on the process for reviewing and certifying 2024 comprehensive plan updates.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, at mmoore@psrc.org.

Discussion: Household Travel Survey Program

Brian Lee, Program Manager – Data Solutions and Research, and Suzanne Childress, Principal Data Scientist, presented early insights from the 2023 household travel survey (HTS) data and provide information about the upcoming 2025 HTS.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Brian Lee, Program Manager – Data Solutions and Research, at blee@psrc.org, or Suzanne Childress, Principal Data Scientist, at schildress@psrc.org.

Discussion: Washington Geological Survey Resources

Tricia Sears and Alex Steely from the Washington Geological Survey (WGS) provided an overview of WGS and shared resources WGS has available to support planning and decision-making, including planning for geologic hazards.

You can find the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at bbakkenta@psrc.org.

Discussion: Industrial Lands Analysis Update Report

Jason Thibedeau, Program Manager – Economic Development, provided the Regional Staff Committee with a recap of the project timeline and key findings for the recently released draft regional Industrial Lands Analysis update.

You can find the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Jason Thibedeau, Program Manager – Economic Development, at jthibedeau@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Heather Culver, PSRC
 Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
 Maggie Moore, PSRC
 Jason Thibedeau, PSRC
 Suzanne Childress, PSRC
 Gil Cerise, PSRC
 Brian Lee, PSRC
 Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC

David Dixon, PSRC
Tricia Sears, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Laura Benjamin-LaPitz, City of Bellevue
Katie Enders, PSRC
Nancy Buonanno Grennan, PSRC
Kate Johnson
Eric Clute, PSRC
Paul Inghram, PSRC
Erika Harris, PSRC
Ted Vanegas, Washington State Department of Commerce
Mary Richards, PSRC
Carol Naito, PSRC
GAH
Alex Steely, Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Pauline Mogilevsky, KRCC Staff
Jean Kim, PSRC

ATTACHMENT:

- A. RSC Member Attendance for the May 16, 2024, Meeting

PSRC Regional Staff Committee - Attendance Roster

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Jurisdiction	Member	Jurisdiction	Member
King County	2 Ivan Miller, King County Executive Office	R	Federal, Regional, State, Tribal & Other Agencies
	McCaela Daffern, King County	R	FHWA
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt		
	Valerie Kendall, King County Alt	FTA	1
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity/Social Justice, Co-Chair	R	
	Kwame Simmons, Policy Advisor Alt	R	Health
	Dan Cardwell, Local Services/Utilities, King Co	R	
	Susan McLain, Local Services/Subarea Planning Alt		
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Gov. Relations	Ports	1
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt		
Economic Dev.	1 Amie Danielewicz, King Co Exec Office Alt	R	PSCAA
	Jesse Reynolds, Local Services/Econ Dev Alt		
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, OPCD	R	Puget Sound
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT	R	Partnership
	Patrice Carroll, OPCD Alt		Sound Transit
	Joanna Valencia, SDOT Alt		
Bellevue	1 Thara Johnson, Planning Manager, Comm Dev	R	Tribal
	Katie Kuciemba Halse, Transportation, Alt		Representatives
Cities/Towns	3 Diana Hart, City of Kirkland	R	US EPA
	Jeff Churchill, City of Redmond	R	
	Brian Davis, City of Federal Way		US HUD
	Minnie Dhaliwal, City of Issaquah Alt	R	
	Vacant Alt		WA Dept. of
	Vacant Alt		Commerce
Kitsap County	1 Eric Baker, Policy	R	WSDOT
	Jeff Rimack, Alt		
At-Large	1 Heather Wright, Planning Director		PSRC Committees
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt		PSRC Co-Chair
Transit	1 Edward Coviello, Kitsap Transit		BPAC
	Vacant Alt		
Economic Dev.	1 Joe Morrison, KEDA		FAC
	Vacant Alt		
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Community Dev, Co-Chair	R	RPEC
	Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager, Alt		
Cities/Towns	1 Nick Bond, Comm Development, Port Orchard		SNTC
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt		
	Vacant Alt		
Pierce County	1 Lauren Flemister, Assistant Director		TDM
	Vacant Alt		
At-Large	2 Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning	R	R = Remote attendance
	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake, Planning, Co-Chair	R	
	Ryan Windish, Sumner, Alt		
	Angelie Stahlnecker, Milton, Alt		
Transit	1 Vacant		
	Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, Alt		
Economic Dev	1 Rob Allen, Economic Development		
	Vacant Alt		
Tacoma	1 Peter Huffman, Planning & Dev Svcs		
	Vacant		
Cities/Towns	1 Kendall Wals, Puyallup	R	
	Chris Larson, Fife, Alt		
Snohomish County	1 Mike McCrary, PDS Director	R	
	David Killingstad, Planning & Development		
At-Large	2 Kelly Snyder, Director, Co-Chair	R	
	Ken Klein, Executive Director		
	Jay Larson, Public Works Supervisor, Alt		
	Joshua Dugan, Exec Operations Officer, Alt		
Transit	1 Melissa Cauley, Community Transit	R	
	Melinda Adams, Everett Transit Alt	R	
Economic Dev	1 Neepaporn Boungjaktha, Economic Dev	R	
	Vacant Alt		
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director	R	
	Becky Ableman McCrary, Long Range Planning Mgr		
Cities/Towns	1 Russ Wright, Lake Stevens, Comm Dev. Director	R	
	Vacant Alt		
Total Members	47	Attended	33



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 20, 2024

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee
From: Erika Harris, Senior Planner, PSRC
Subject: **Open Space Trends**

IN BRIEF

PSRC is developing a report on trends in open space conservation and enhancement to monitor implementation of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. A draft of the report will be available in July. Feedback on the draft is welcome.

BOARD CALENDAR

This topic will be included as a Discussion item at the July 18 Growth Management Policy Board meeting. The purpose will be to get Board input on areas for more in-depth analysis in an upcoming update of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, and to identify ways that PSRC can support jurisdictions' work to protect and enhance open space.

DISCUSSION

Farms, forests, aquatic systems, parks and other types of open space provide food, building materials, flood control, recreation, clean air and water and many other ecosystem services. Because this natural infrastructure provides so many benefits to the region, VISION 2050 includes ambitious expectations for protecting open space, reducing growth pressure in rural and resource lands and improving access to urban parks and regional trails. MPP-En-12 directs the region to identify, preserve, and enhance significant regional open space networks and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries through implementation and update of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. MPP-En-15 calls for providing parks, trails, and open space within walking distance of urban residents and prioritize historically underserved communities for open space improvements and investments.

The 2018 [Regional Open Space Conservation Plan](#) maps the open space network across the region and identifies priority actions needed to increase access to and sustain open spaces for the long term. A [Conservation Toolkit](#) helps implement the plan.

The regional open space network includes the most important open spaces in the region to maintain, protect and enhance. It covers about 340 miles of regional trails and 3 million acres of public and private land, including natural lands, farmlands, working forests, aquatic systems, and urban open space. Continued strong growth and development in the region puts pressure on the open space network, in particular the many acres that are on private land. The plan identifies approximately 463,000 acres of the regional open space network that are most at risk and includes short and long-term goals for conservation. The plan also identifies 47 of the highest priority areas to improve equitable access to urban parks and open space and 300 miles of trails to complete the regional trail network.

The report on open space trends will review key open space information such as data on land cover, conservation easements, tree canopy cover, housing development and park and trail locations. This information will help to assess how the region's open spaces are evolving and be compared to goals in the Regional Open Space Conservation plan to monitor progress. The report will be released as part of the July [Growth Management Policy Board](#) meeting packet. PSRC staff will share key findings in the report at the committee's June meeting. In addition to the committee and board, it will also be shared with counties and other implementing partners.

Feedback on the report will help to inform a more in-depth analysis to be conducted in the next year or two as part of an update to the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan.

Questions for the committee:

- Do you have any reactions or feedback on the open space information provided?
- What additional information should PSRC review for a more in-depth analysis and update of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan?
- What are ways that PSRC could support jurisdictions' work to protect and enhance open space?

NEXT STEPS

Committee members are encouraged to review the open space report and share it with staff who work on conservation, park, trail and open space issues. PSRC will follow up with a link to the draft and instructions for providing feedback. PSRC staff will integrate feedback on the draft and finalize it in September.

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at

eharris@psrc.org or 206-464-6360.



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 20, 2024

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee
From: Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning
Subject: **Regional Safety Plan Update**

IN BRIEF

Work to develop PSRC's first Regional Safety Action Plan is underway, funded through the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program. The Regional Staff Committee was briefed on the scope of work in the fall of 2023. At the June meeting the committee will be briefed on the results of the initial research and data collection efforts.

BOARD CALENDAR

This topic was a Discussion item at the Transportation Policy Board's June 13 meeting and will be included on the June 27 Executive Board meeting agenda. The purpose is to provide a status update on the development of the Regional Safety Plan and to ask for direction on emerging priorities and areas of emphasis for the plan. Extensive public outreach will be conducted in summer and fall 2024. Release of a draft plan for public comment is anticipated in early 2025.

DISCUSSION

The current Regional Transportation Plan directs PSRC to develop a Regional Safety Action Plan including actions, targets, and performance indicators. It also directs PSRC to seek resources for regional and local planning and projects and to use the Regional Safety Action Plan to help inform future regional and local planning.

In the last year, PSRC was awarded two planning grants through the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All program, newly established through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021. Totaling nearly \$8 million, these grants are funding the

development of a Regional Safety Action Plan, as well as subawards to 15 local jurisdictions in the region – large and small – to develop roadway safety action plans tailored to their local needs.

To better understand expectations and goals for the Regional Safety Action Plan, PSRC held the first Regional Safety Summit on June 29, 2023. Approximately 140 participants gathered at the Seattle Convention Center to discuss transportation safety issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the region. The purpose of the summit was to bring together stakeholders – including elected officials, transportation experts, engaged citizens, agency staff, and others – to foster a shared understanding of the state of road safety in the region and to advance the conversation on how we can best move the region forward to achieving zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.

Responding to the feedback heard at the summit, as well as the components required by USDOT under the provisions of the SS4A planning grant, PSRC developed a draft scope of work for a Regional Safety Action Plan. The Regional Staff Committee was briefed on the scope of work in November 2023, and consultant teams were brought on board in 2024 to help develop the plan: the technical analysis is being led by WSP USA, and outreach and engagement is being led by Uncommon Bridges.

The Regional Safety Action Plan will follow the USDOT Safe System Approach for equitable and impactful progress on achieving the safety goals across the four-county region. The initial tasks under the scope of work include a detailed analysis of regional crash data, particularly those resulting in serious injuries or deaths, an inventory of current plans and policies in place around the region, and a review of best practices.

At the June 20 meeting, PSRC staff will provide information on this first set of tasks for the Regional Safety Action Plan. This will include preliminary information on current regional trends and a discussion of how the data will be further analyzed and used in the development of the plan. Ultimately a State of the Region report will be developed and released prior to completion of the full plan, and data will become available to jurisdictions for their use at the local level.

Information will also be provided on the state of the practice, both regionally and nationally. This will include a review of local safety plans and policies, and a summary of feedback gathered from agency partners on the types of safety strategies being deployed around the region.

NEXT STEPS

Additional briefings will be provided to the board before the end of the year as a draft plan is developed. The plan is scheduled to be adopted in spring of 2025.

For more information please contact Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, at 206-971-3276 or gsimonson@psrc.org, or Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org.